

IN THE CLAIMS

Upon entry of the present amendment, the status of the claims will be as is shown below. This listing of claims replaces all previous versions and listings of claims in the present application.

Claims 1-10 (Cancelled).

11. (New) A remote controller which enables a terminal device to control a remotely-controlled device through a network, the remote controller comprising:
  - an address storage operable to acquire and store a current address of the remotely-controlled device on the network by communicating with the remotely-controlled device through the network at constant time intervals;
  - a first communication interface operable to transmit, through the network at constant time intervals to the remotely-controlled device based on the current address stored in the address storage, a status notification request, and operable to receive, from the remotely-controlled device in response to the status notification request, status information indicating a status of the remotely-controlled device;
  - a status storage operable to store the status information received from the remotely-controlled device; and
  - a second communication interface operable to transmit the stored status information to the terminal device through the network in response to a status request from the terminal device.

12. (New) The remote controller according to claim 11,  
wherein the first communication interface is operable to transmit the status notification request to the remotely-controlled device when the status request is received from the terminal device.

13. (New) The remote controller according to claim 11,  
wherein the remotely-controlled device is operable to transmit the status information indicating the status of the remotely-controlled device to the first communication interface upon a change in the status of the remotely-controlled device.

14. (New) The remote controller according to claim 11,  
wherein the remotely-controlled device is operable to detect a status of a subject to be controlled in the remotely-controlled device, and to transmit, to the terminal device in response to the status notification request, the detected status as the status information indicating the status of the remotely-controlled device.

15. (New) A remote control method of controlling a remotely-controlled device through a network, the method comprising:

acquiring and storing a current address of the remotely-controlled device on the network by communicating with the remotely-controlled device through the network at constant time intervals;  
transmitting, through the network at constant time intervals to the remotely-controlled device based on the stored current address, a status notification request;

receiving, from the remotely-controlled device in response to the status notification request, status information indicating a status of the remotely-controlled device; storing the status information received from the remotely-controlled device; and transmitting the stored status information to a terminal device through the network in response to a status request from the terminal device.

16. (New) The remote control method according to claim 15, wherein the status notification request is transmitted to the remotely-controlled device when the status request is received from the terminal device.

17. (New) The remote control method according to claim 15, wherein the status information indicating the status of the remotely-controlled device is transmitted to the terminal device upon a change in status of the remotely-controlled device.

18. (New) The remote control method according to claim 15, further comprising: detecting a status of a subject to be controlled in the remote-controlled device; and transmitting, to the terminal device in response to the status notification request, the detected status as the status information indicating the status of the remotely-controlled device.